

Figure 2 - Related Art

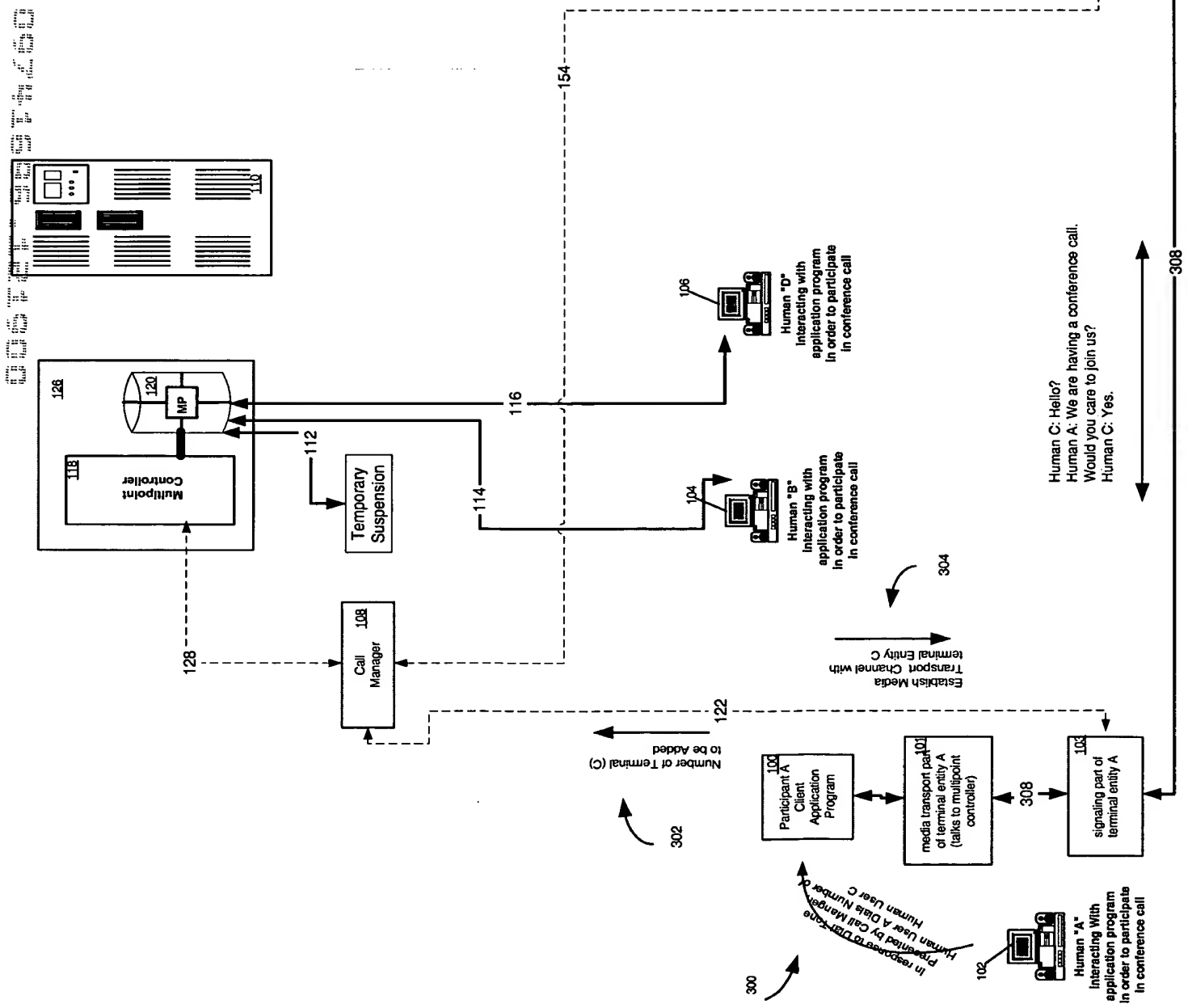


Figure 3 - Related Art

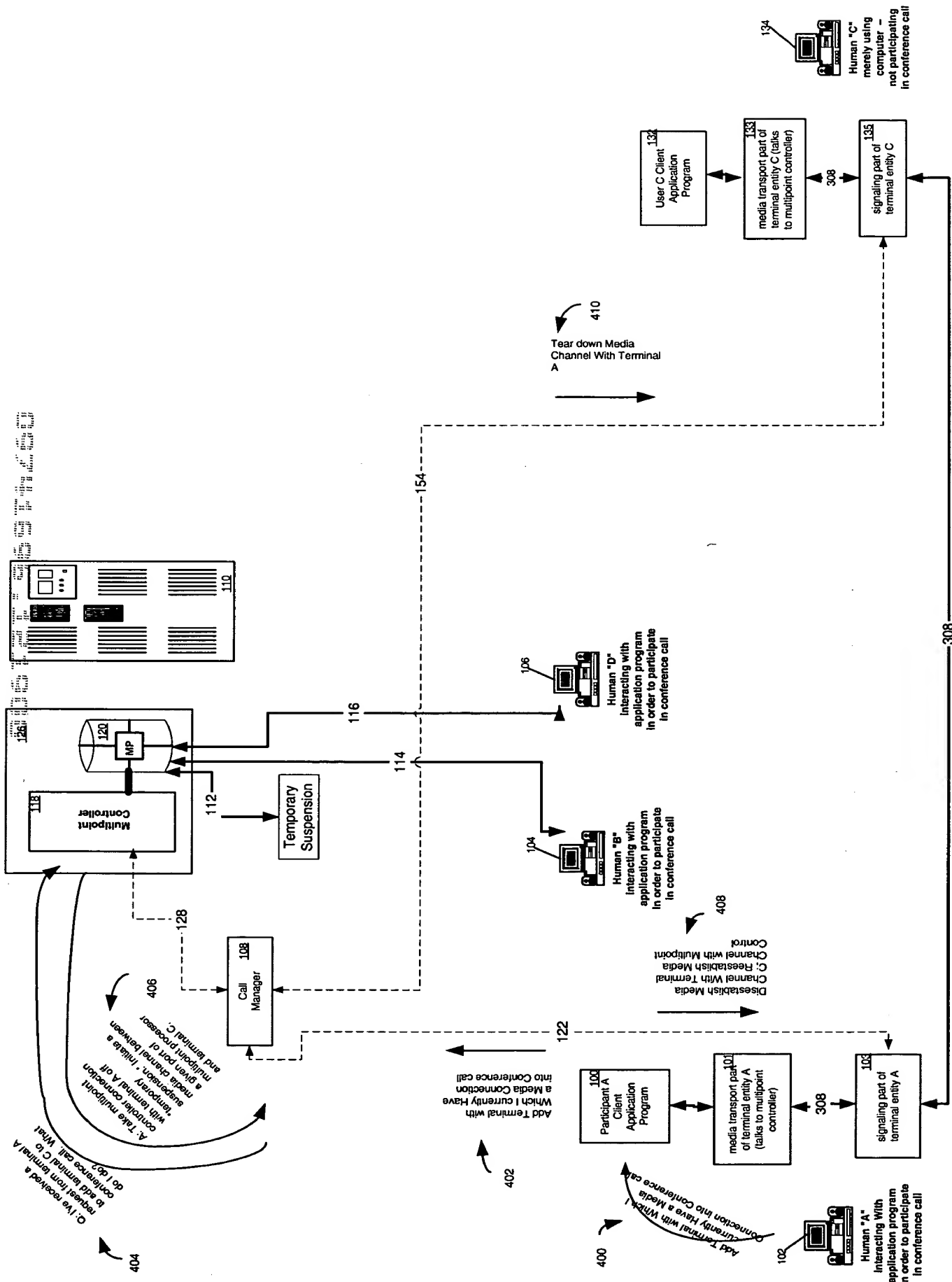
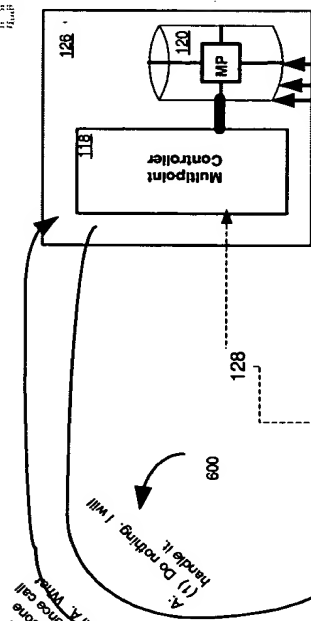


Figure 4 - Related Art

FIG. 6 is a block diagram of a system for managing a conference call. The system includes a Multipoint Controller (118) and a Call Manager (108). The Multipoint Controller (118) is connected to a Multipoint (MP) (120) and a Multipoint Controller (128). The Call Manager (108) is connected to the Multipoint Controller (118) and the Multipoint (120). The system also includes a User A Client Application Program (100), a media transport part of terminal entity A (102), a signaling part of terminal entity A (104), a User B Client Application Program (106), a media transport part of terminal entity B (108), and a signaling part of terminal entity B (110). The system further includes a User C Client Application Program (132), a media transport part of terminal entity C (134), and a signaling part of terminal entity C (136). The system is designed to manage a conference call by allowing participants to join and leave the call at any time.



Q: I've received a request to extend an invitation to someone do I do?

A: Do nothing, I will handle it.

Q: I've received a request to extend an invitation to someone do I do?

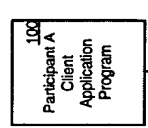
A: Do nothing, I will handle it.

204

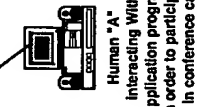
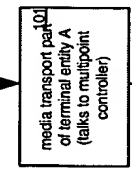
Request to Extend Additional Participant to Conference Call

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Human user A enters input requesting that user C application program 132 be sent an invitation to join conference call



Human "A" Interacting With application program in order to participate in conference call

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FIG. 7 is a block diagram of a system for conducting a conference call. The system includes a Multipoint Controller (118) and a Media Processor (120) which are connected to a Call Manager (108). The Call Manager is connected to three participants: Human "A" (102), Human "B" (104), and Human "D" (106). Each participant has a corresponding media transport part of terminal entity (101, 103, 105) and a signaling part of terminal entity (102, 104, 106). The system also includes a User C Client Application Program (132) and a media transport part of terminal entity C (133) which is connected to a signaling part of terminal entity C (135). The system is designed to allow Human "A" to enter a conference call by dialing a number, and Human "B" and Human "D" to interact with the application program in order to participate in the conference call.

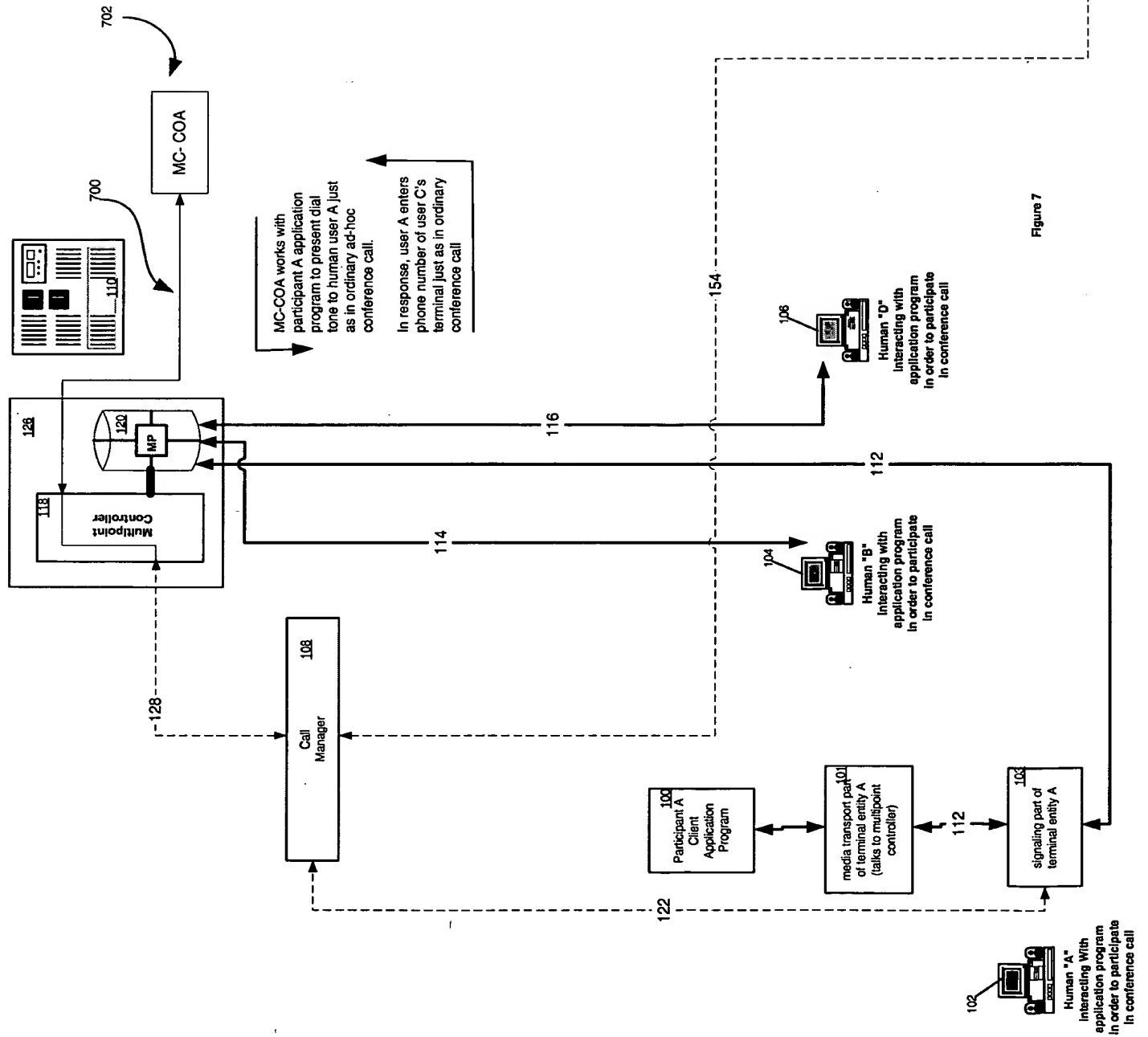


Figure 7

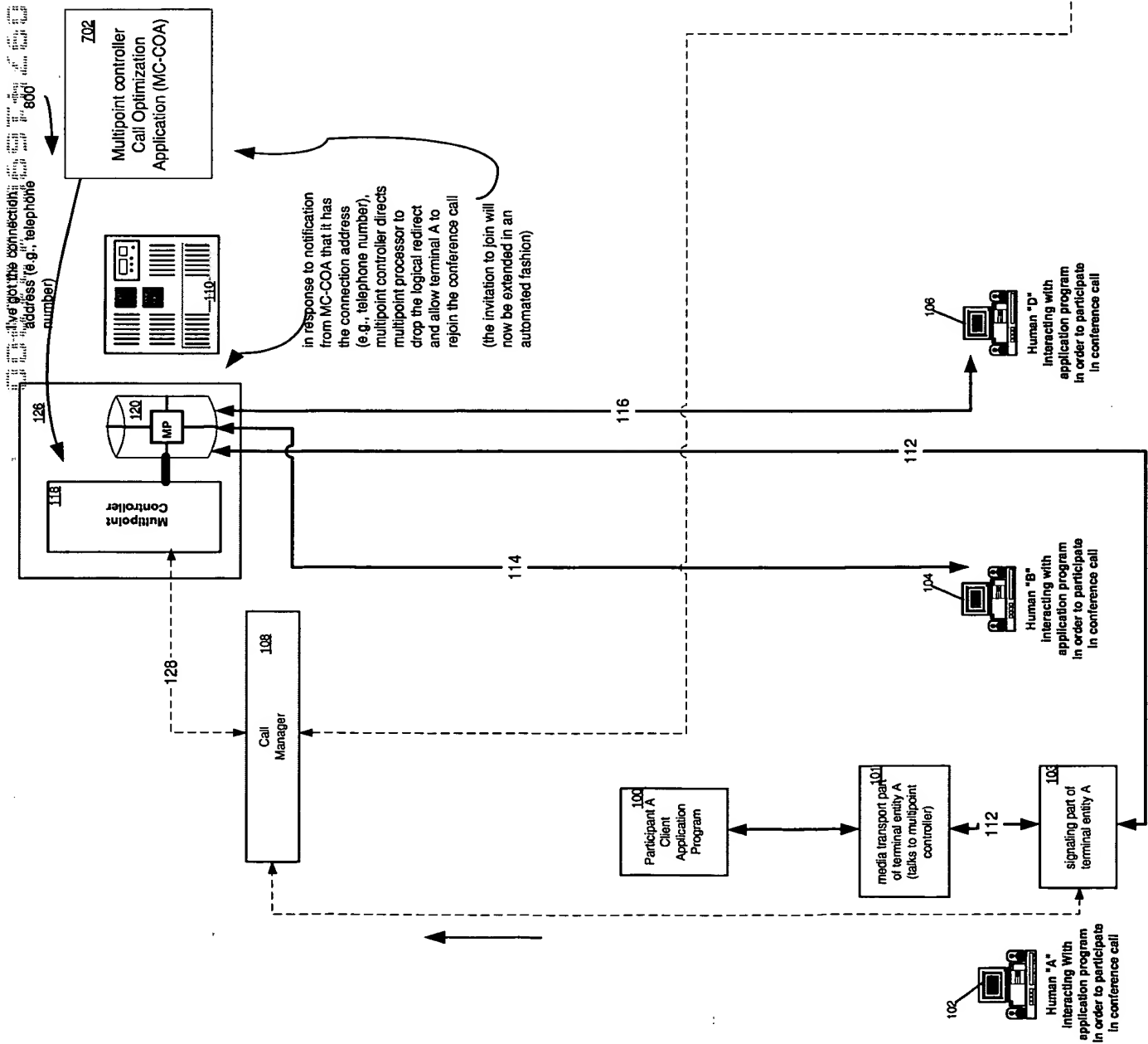
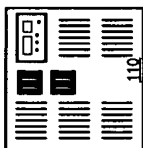


Figure 8

directory to associate connection

addresses (e.g., telephone numbers) of terminals to be added to conference call with non-media-transport-channel-supporting connection addresses (e.g., different type protocol network addresses) of a computer having the terminals to be added (e.g., resolve telephone number of terminal entity C to the IP address of computer 134 housing network terminal entity C and/or an instant messaging service identifier)

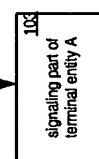
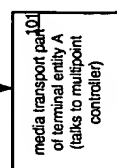
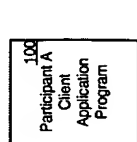
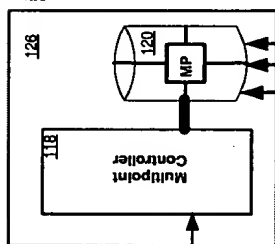
202
Multipoint controller
Call Optimization
Application (MC-COA)



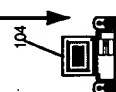
Subsequent to MC-COA receiving connection address (e.g., telephone number) for terminal C from terminal A, associate received connection address (e.g., telephone number) with a corresponding non-media-transport-channel-supporting connection address on an essentially free network (e.g., IP address and/or an instant messaging service identifier).

900

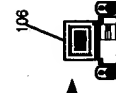
one or more essentially free (i.e., very low cost) potential network connections having properties insufficient to serve as Media Transport Channels (e.g., connections established utilizing Internet Protocol WANs such as the Internet) to which COA-C program is always "listening"



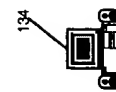
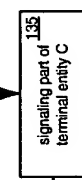
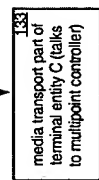
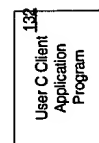
Human "A"
Interacting with
application program
in order to participate
in conference call



Human "B"
Interacting with
application program
in order to participate
in conference call



Human "D"
Interacting with
application program
in order to participate
in conference call



Human "C"
merely using
computer -
not participating
in conference call

Figure 9

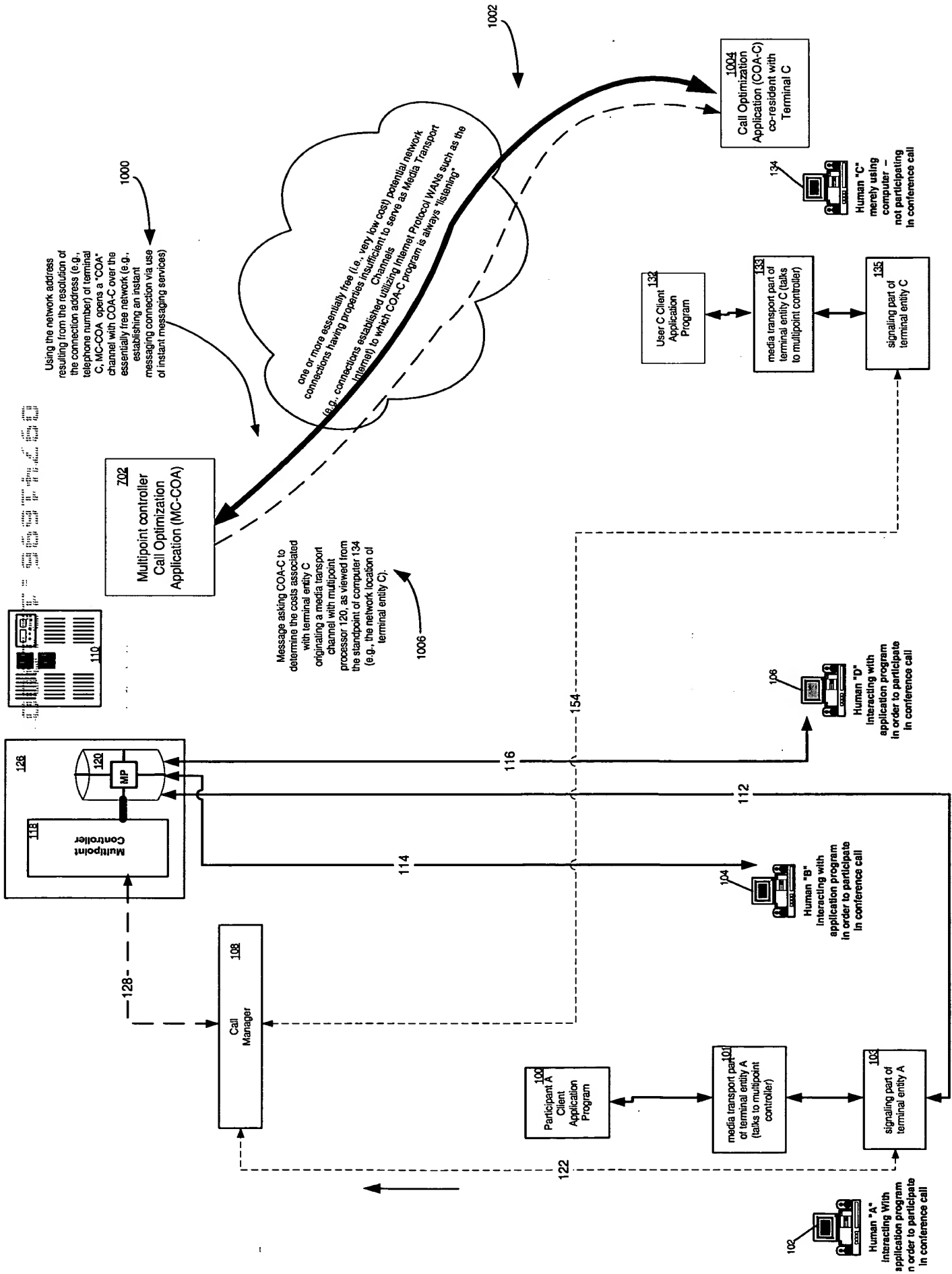


Figure 10

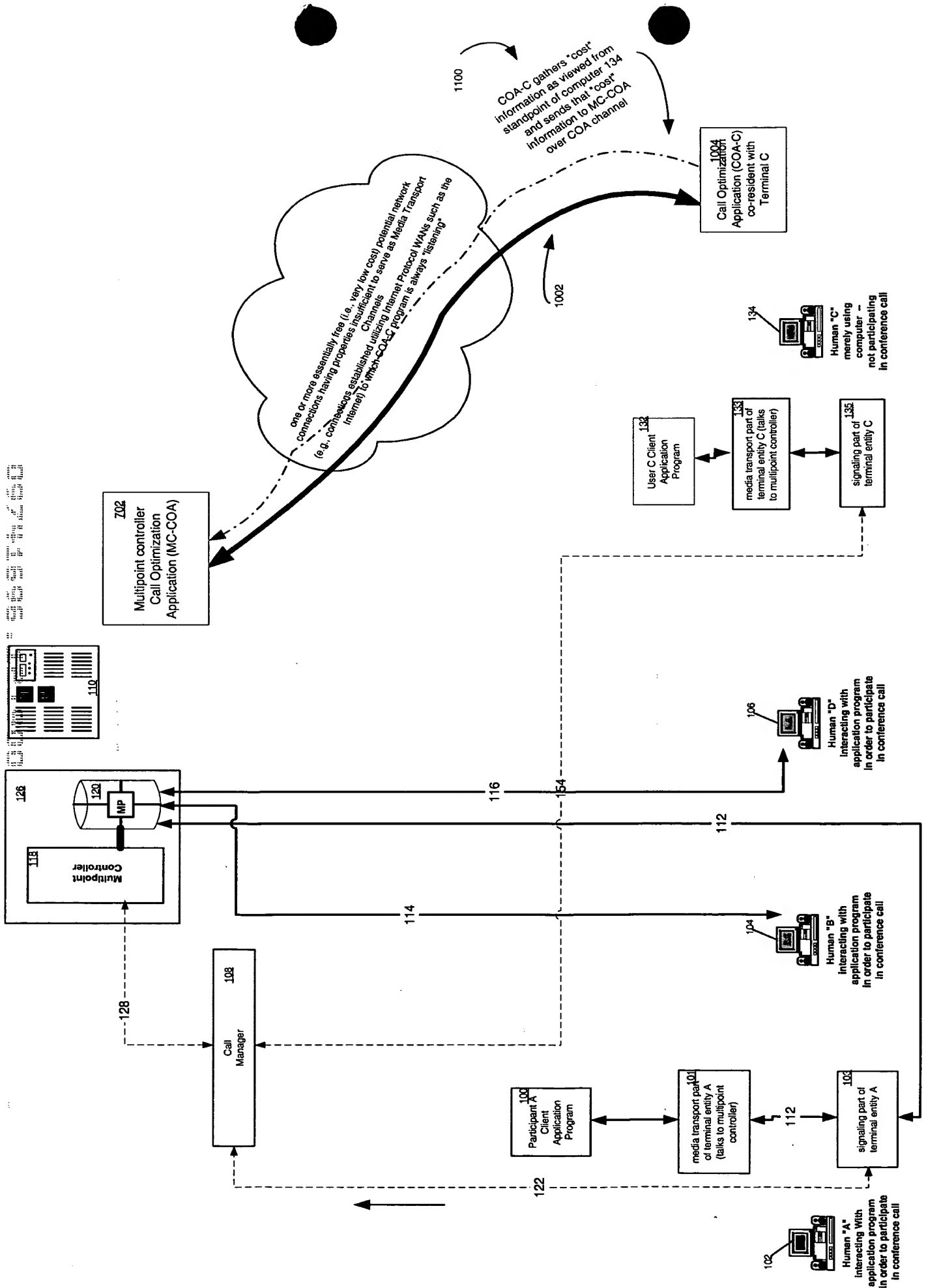


Figure 11

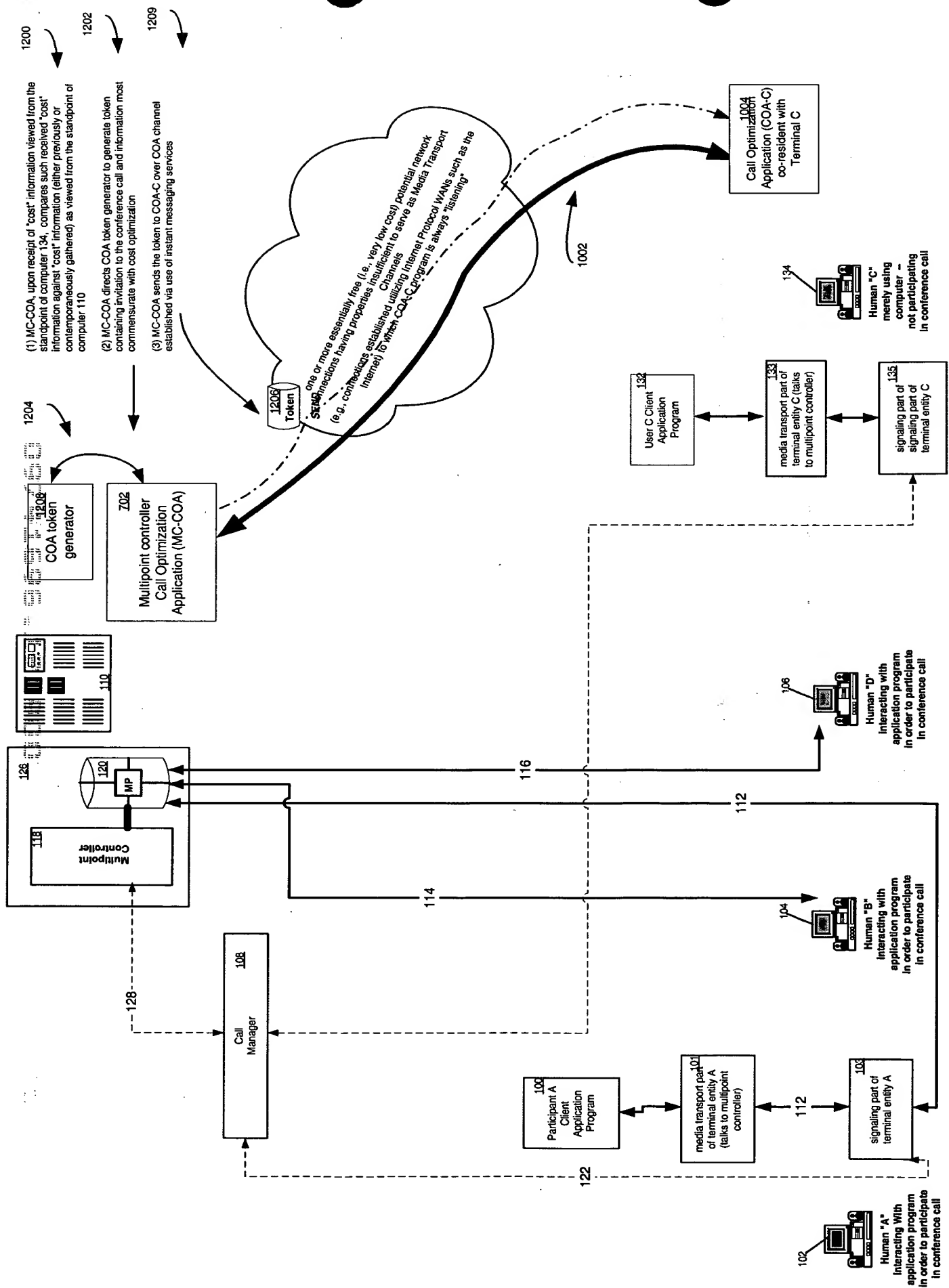


Figure 12

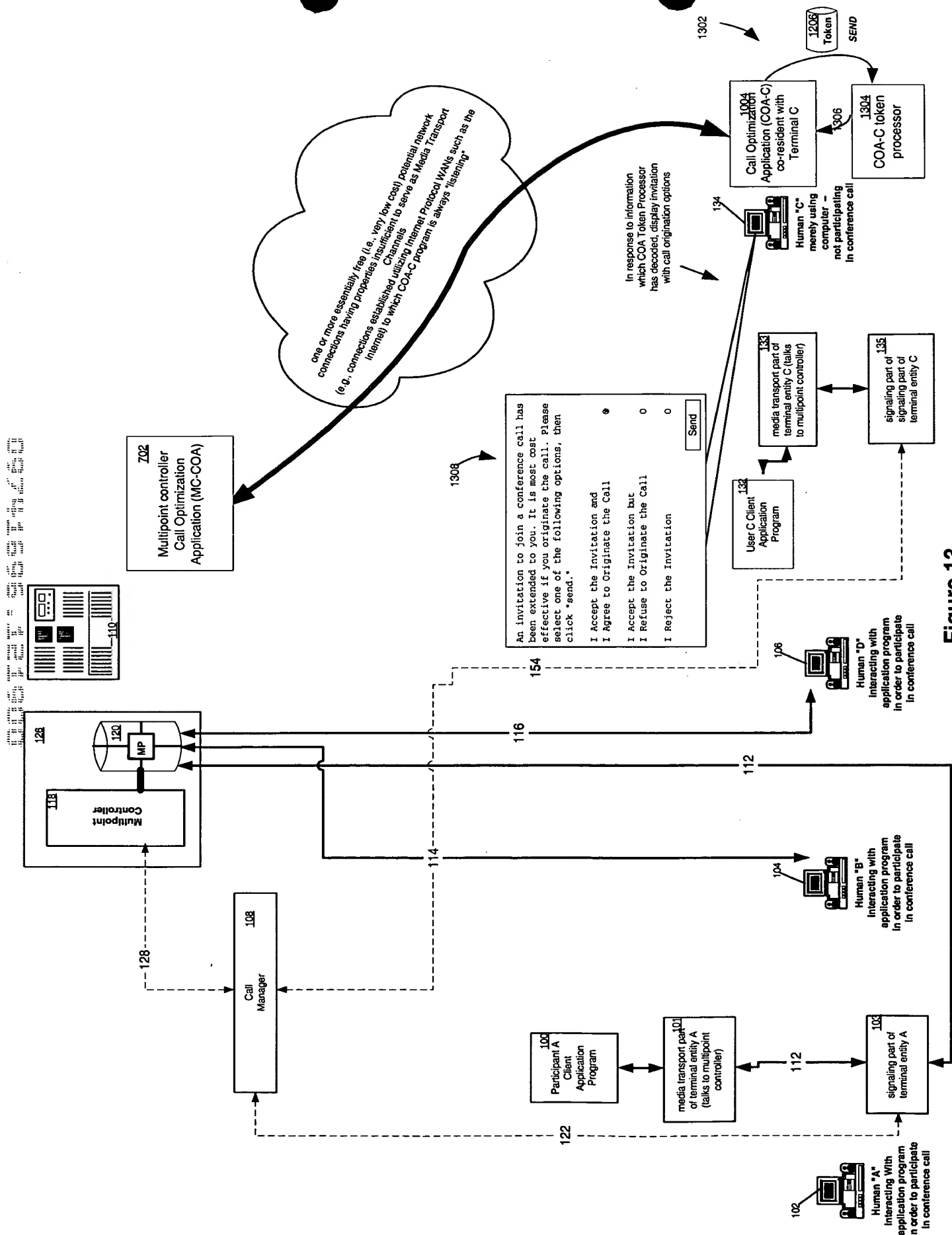


Figure 13

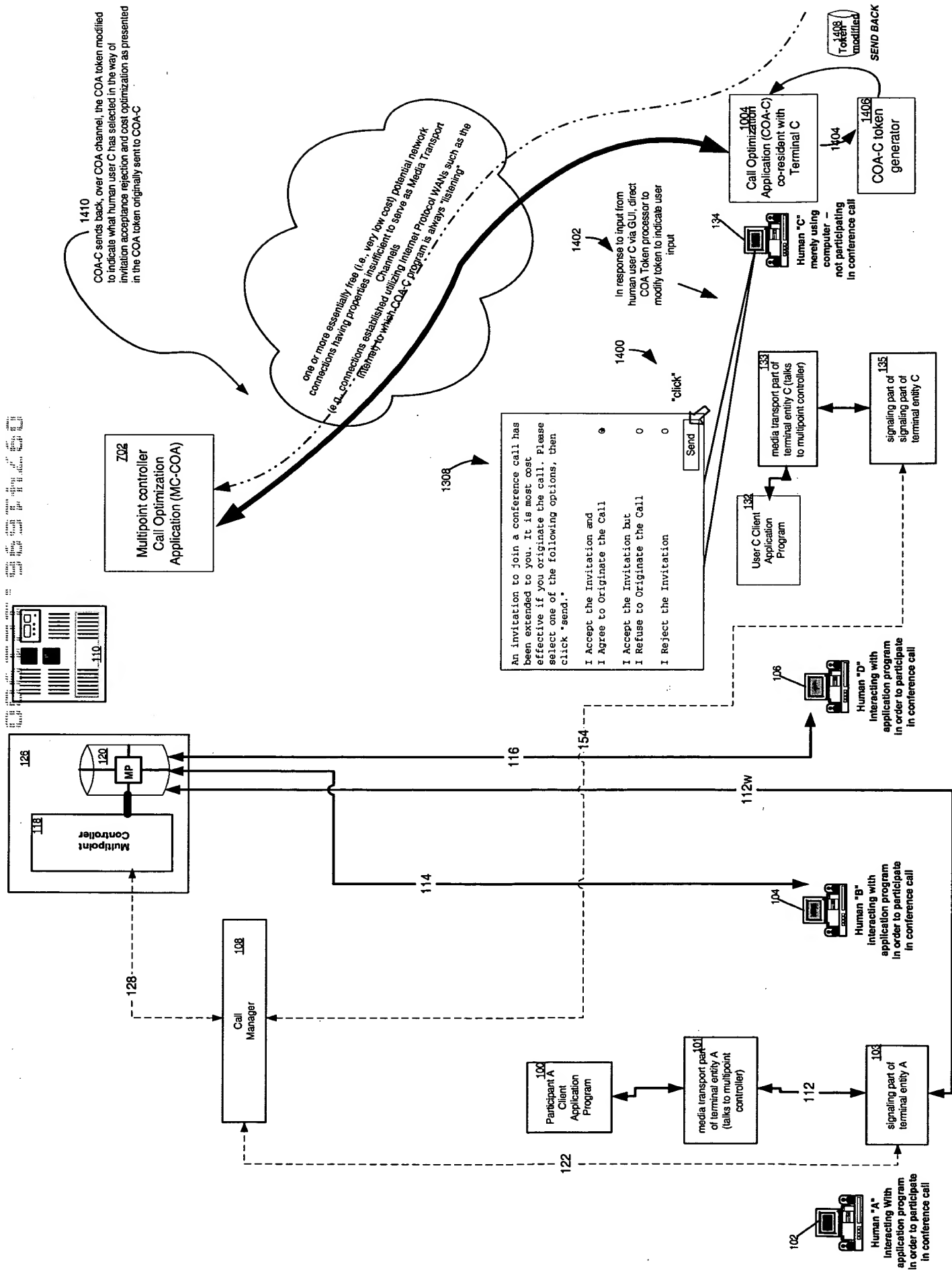


Figure 14

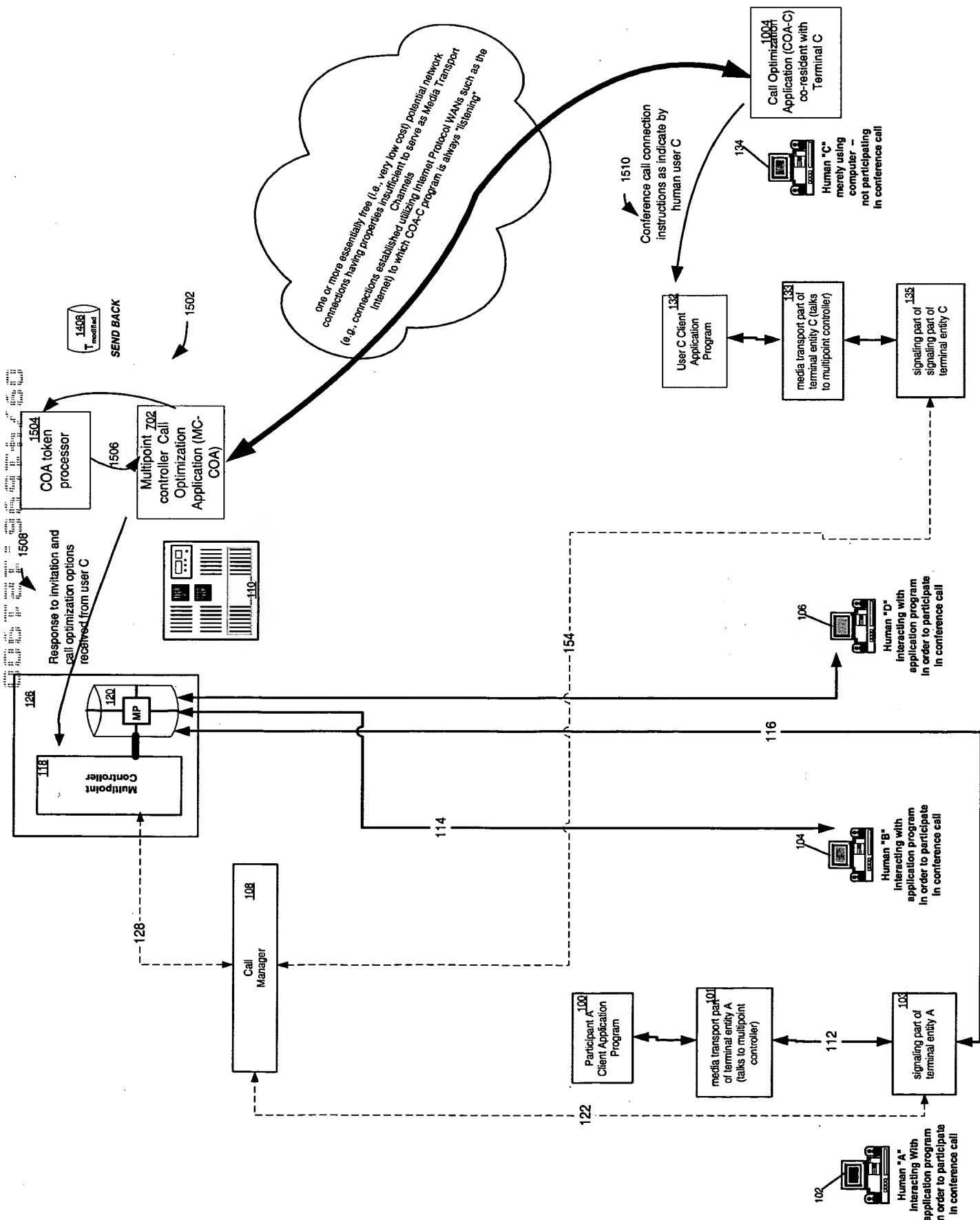


Figure 15

(2) acts "as if" terminal C were joining a "meet me" conference call by directing call manager 108 to connect terminal entity calling in and authenticating itself with a particular password to a port of multipoint processor 120 associated with the ongoing conference call between terminals A, B, and D; or

Figure 16

Figure 16

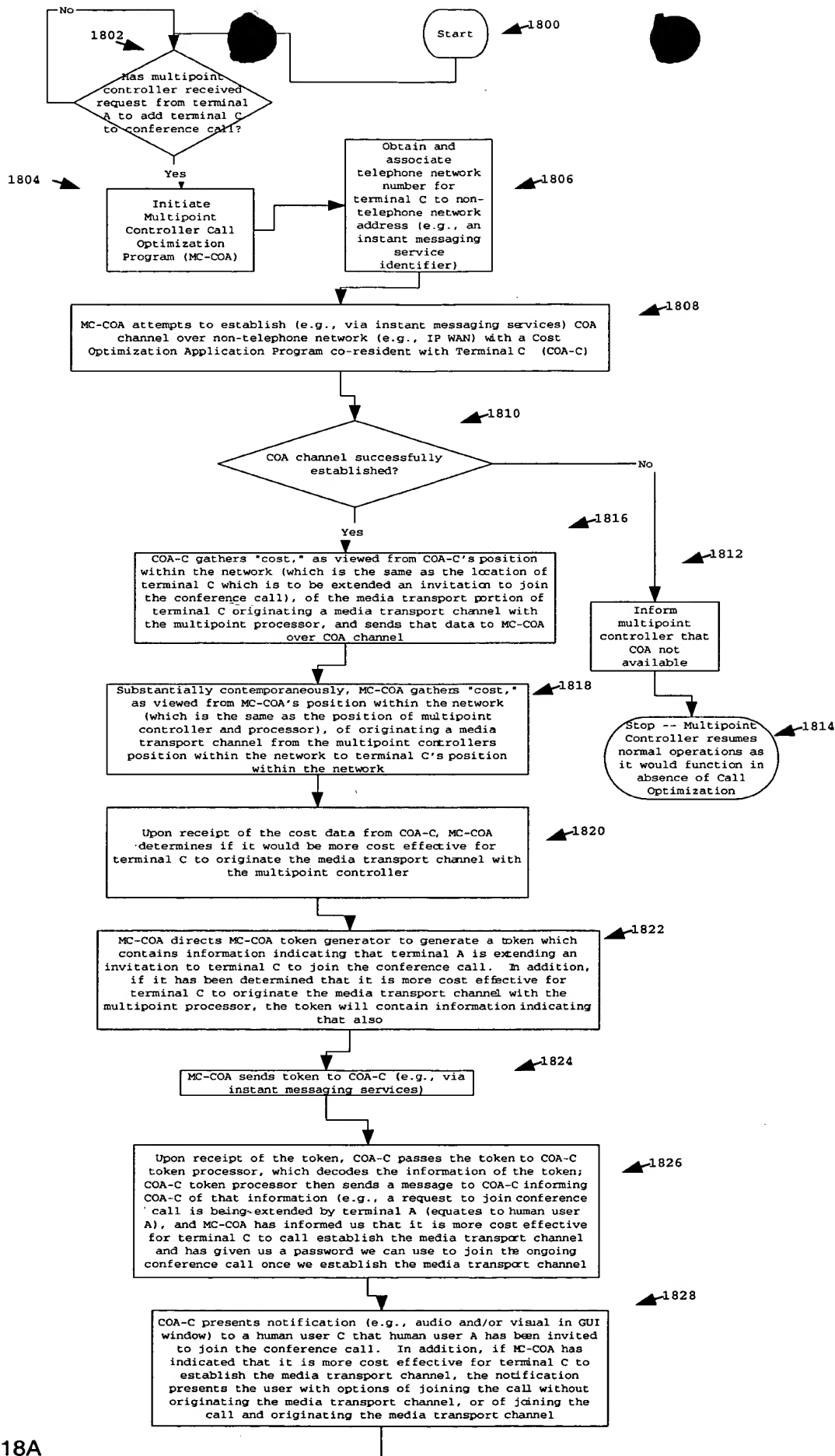


Fig. 18A

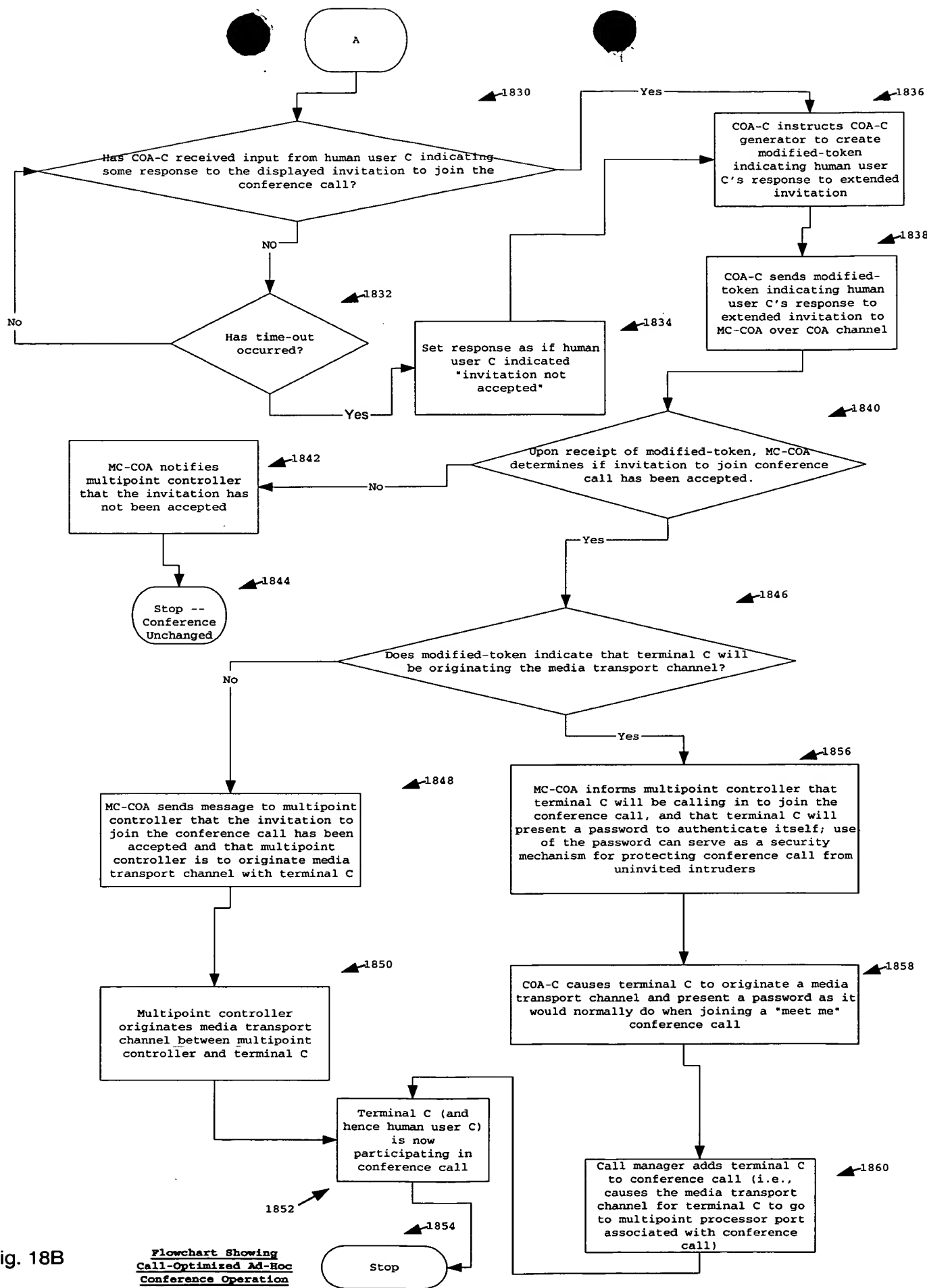


Fig. 18B